GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5432
ANSWERED ON:29.08.2001
PAK DESIGNS
SATYAVRAT CHATURVEDI;SUNDER LAL TIWARI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has spread coal powder on ice bergs as reported in the Rashtriya Sahara dated May 30, 2001; and

(b) if so, its likely impact on Indian territory and the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a)&(b) Government have seen media reports about Pakistan carrying out experiments for artificial melting of glaciers. These reports have so far not been confirmed.

Experiments of this nature are known to have been conducted by some countries for scientific purposes. The present state of knowledge indicates that such experiments do not have any significant large scale impact on the melt process since such processes are influenced by a complex range of factors.

Government are vigilant and capable of formulating an appropriate response if the need arises.